

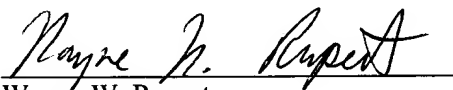
REMARKS

The Office Action mailed July 26, 2002, has been reviewed and the comments of the examiner carefully considered. Applicants note that the subject matter recited in previously pending claims 29, 31-35, 37, 54, 57 and 60 has been allowed. Claim 26 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 29, now canceled. Claim 55 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 57, now canceled. Claim 59 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 60, now canceled. Allowable dependent claims 31, 34, and 54 have been amended so that they are each in independent form. Claims 26-28, 30 and 62 also have been amended to recite a "reciprocating" punch. Support for "reciprocating" punch is found in the specification, for example, at page 4, lines 34-35. New dependent claims 67-71 have been added. Support for new claims 67 and 68 is found in the specification, for example, at page 13, lines 36-37 and FIG. 14. Support for new claims 69 and 70 is found in the specification at page 15, lines 15-24. Support for new claim 71 is found in the specification at page 15, lines 6-14. Entry of these amendments is requested.

The present claims are condition for allowance since all the independent claims recite subject matter that was indicated as being allowable in the July 26th Office Action. Should there be any questions regarding this application, Examiner Forman is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number shown below.

Respectfully submitted,

KLARQUIST SPARKMAN, LLP

By 
Wayne W. Rupert
Registration No. 34,420

One World Trade Center, Suite 1600
121 S.W. Salmon Street
Portland, Oregon 97204
Telephone: (503) 226-7391
Facsimile: (503) 228-9446

**Marked-up Version of Amended Claims
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.121(b)-(c)**

The claims have been amended as follows:

26. (Amended) An apparatus for preparing specimens for parallel analysis of sections of biological material arrays, comprising:

a donor block holder for holding a tissue donor block in a donor position; and

a [reciprocal] reciprocating punch positioned in relation to the holder to punch a tissue specimen from the tissue donor block when the donor block is in the donor position; and

a recipient block holder for holding a recipient block in a recipient position, wherein the recipient block comprises an array of receptacles, each of which is positionable in a preselected position in relation to the [reciprocal] reciprocating punch to deliver a tissue specimen from the [reciprocal] reciprocating punch into a receptacle in the preselected position; and

a positioner for positioning over the donor block a reference slide that includes at least one structure of interest, to align the at least one structure of interest in the reference slide with corresponding tissue specimen regions in the donor block.

27. (Twice Amended) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the recipient block holder comprises an x-y positioning device that can be incrementally moved to align sequential receptacles and the [reciprocal] reciprocating punch.

28. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 26, further comprising a stylet positioned for introduction into the [reciprocal] reciprocating punch to expel the tissue specimen from the punch into one of the receptacles aligned with the punch.

30. (Twice Amended) The apparatus of claim 26, further comprising a second [reciprocal] reciprocating punch capable of being positioned relative to the recipient block for punching the array of receptacles in the recipient block, wherein the second [reciprocal] reciprocating punch is different than the [reciprocal] reciprocating punch positioned to punch the specimen from the tissue donor block.

31. (Twice Amended) [The apparatus of claim 26, further comprising] An apparatus for preparing specimens for parallel analysis of sections of biological material arrays, comprising:
a donor block holder for holding a tissue donor block in a donor position; and

a reciprocating punch positioned in relation to the holder to punch a tissue specimen from the tissue donor block when the donor block is in the donor position; and

a recipient block holder for holding a recipient block in a recipient position, wherein the recipient block comprises an array of receptacles, each of which is positionable in a preselected position in relation to the reciprocating punch to deliver a tissue specimen from the reciprocating punch into a receptacle in the preselected position; and

a recorder for recording coordinate positions of the receptacles in the recipient block.

34. (Twice Amended) [The apparatus of claim 26, further comprising] An apparatus for preparing specimens for parallel analysis of sections of biological material arrays, comprising:

a donor block holder for holding a tissue donor block in a donor position; and

a reciprocating punch positioned in relation to the holder to punch a tissue specimen from the tissue donor block when the donor block is in the donor position; and

a recipient block holder for holding a recipient block in a recipient position, wherein the recipient block comprises an array of receptacles, each of which is positionable in a preselected position in relation to the reciprocating punch to deliver a tissue specimen from the reciprocating punch into a receptacle in the preselected position; and

a sectioning device for sectioning the recipient block into sections that can be subjected to different analyses.

54. (Amended) [The apparatus of claim 26, further comprising] An apparatus for preparing specimens for parallel analysis of sections of biological material arrays, comprising:

a donor block holder for holding a tissue donor block in a donor position; and

a reciprocating punch positioned in relation to the holder to punch a tissue specimen from the tissue donor block when the donor block is in the donor position; and

a recipient block holder for holding a recipient block in a recipient position, wherein the recipient block comprises an array of receptacles, each of which is positionable in a preselected position in relation to the reciprocating punch to deliver a tissue specimen from the reciprocating punch into a receptacle in the preselected position; and

a reference slide positioner that includes at least one slide that extends between opposing walls of the donor block holder.

55. (Amended) A device for preparing biological material arrays, comprising:

a platform that includes at least one guide for positioning a tissue donor block holder or a recipient block holder; and

a punch apparatus that includes a guide surface, a punch base slidably mounted on the guide surface, and a punch received within the punch base that can be aligned with the tissue block holder or the recipient block holder; and

a reference slide positioner interposed between the platform and the punch apparatus.

59. (Amended) An integrated apparatus for preparing specimens for parallel analysis of sections of biological material arrays, comprising:

a donor block holder that can hold a tissue donor block in a donor position;

a reciprocal punch positioned in relation to the donor block holder that can punch a tissue specimen from the tissue donor block when the donor block is in the donor position; [and]

a recipient block holder that can hold a recipient block in a recipient position, wherein the recipient block comprises an array or receptacles, each of which is positionable in a preselected position in relation to the reciprocal punch to deliver a tissue specimen from the reciprocal punch into a receptacle in the preselected position; and

a positioner that can position over the donor block a reference slide that includes at least one structure of interest, to align the at least one structure of interest in the reference slide with corresponding tissue specimen regions in the donor block.

62. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein the diameter of the [reciprocal] reciprocating punch positioned to punch the specimen from the tissue donor block is greater than the diameter of the second [reciprocal] reciprocating punch.


The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement should not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be, prior art with respect to the present application.

Submitted herewith is a check for \$290.00, which includes the \$180.00 fee as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) for filing this Information Disclosure Statement in compliance with 1.97(c).

Please charge any additional fees which may be required in connection with filing this Information Disclosure Statement, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4550. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

KLARQUIST SPARKMAN, LLP

By 
Wayne W. Rupert
Registration No. 34,420

One World Trade Center, Suite 1600
121 S.W. Salmon Street
Portland, Oregon 97204
Telephone: (503) 226-7391
Facsimile: (503) 228-9446